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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Minoru Tsuruta
Serial No: 10/084,557
Filed: February 26, 2002
For: MEDICAL RETRIEVAL
INSTRUMENT
Conf. No.: 7971

Examiner: Charles H. Sam
Art Unit: 3731
Docket: 15226
Dated: May 17, 2004

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

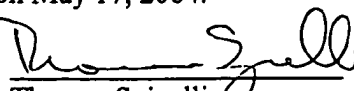
Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 12, 2004, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 17, 2004.

Dated: May 17, 2004


Thomas Spinelli